



News

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BLM Wildlife Biologist Earns National Award

Dr. David A. Yokel of the Bureau of Land Management's Northern Field Office (NFO) in Fairbanks has been named the outstanding professional technician of the year from the Public Lands Foundation. The national nonprofit group recognized Yokel's leadership as the principal wildlife biologist for NFO's Arctic Team, which is responsible for the surface management of the 23 million-acre National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska. Yokel played a key role in the development and implementation of a series of controversial management plans intended to expand oil and gas leasing while protecting the area's sensitive wildlife resources.

Yokel will receive his award in early 2005 at a ceremony in the BLM director's office in Washington, D.C.

The foundation's mission is to enhance the ecological well-being of all BLM-managed public lands. Members are private individuals and organizations, and retired and active BLM employees. For more information on the Public Lands Foundation, go to www.publicland.org/.

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